



Mineral Industry Surveys

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IRON ORE IN NOVEMBER 1999

U.S. mine production of iron ore in November 1999 was 18% higher than that of the prior month, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Shipments increased by 6% and mine stocks

decreased by about 6% compared with October 1999. Consumption and trade data for November 1999 will be included in a subsequent issue.

TABLE 1
U.S. PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS OF IRON ORE 1/
(Exclusive of ore containing 5% or more of manganese)

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Production		Shipments	
	Monthly	Year to date	Monthly	Year to date
1998:				
November	5,113	57,321	5,707	55,621
December	5,269	62,591	5,733	61,354
1999:				
January	4,891	4,891	2,181	2,181
February	4,587	9,479	900	3,081
March	5,145	14,624	2,619	5,699
April	4,846	19,470	6,265	11,965
May	5,473	24,943	6,117	18,082
June	5,047	29,990	5,935	24,017
July	5,249	35,239	5,942	29,959
August	3,872	39,111	5,572	35,531
September	3,334	42,455	5,380	40,911
October	4,439	46,884	5,298	46,209
November	5,231	52,115	5,616	51,825

1/ Excludes byproduct ore.

TABLE 2
U.S. PRODUCTION, SHIPMENTS, AND STOCKS OF IRON ORE IN NOVEMBER 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

District	Production		Shipments 2/		Stocks 3/	
	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998
Lake Superior:						
Michigan	1,461	1,298	1,361	1,572	2,716	3,086
Minnesota	3,770	3,815	4,255	4,136	3,740	3,395
Total	5,231	5,113	5,616	5,707	6,456	6,480

1/ Excludes byproduct ore.

2/ Includes rail and vessel.

3/ Includes mines, plants, and loading docks.

TABLE 3
CANADA: SHIPMENTS OF IRON ORE

(Thousand dry metric tons)

Period	Newfoundland	Quebec	Ontario	British Columbia	Total 1/
1998:					
October	1,747	1,379	--	9	3,135
November	1,215	1,418	--	13	2,645
December	1,651	923	--	8	2,583
Year total	21,628	13,232	651	110	35,621
1999:					
January	569	1,674	--	8	2,251
February	459	528	--	6	992
March	455	642	--	5	1,101
April	1,485	1,236	--	7	2,727
May	2,236	1,316	--	10	3,562
June	1,210 r/	1,356	--	7	2,573 r/
July	2,102	1,266	--	6	3,373
August	1,164	1,390	--	6	2,561
September	2,636	1,150 r/	--	8	3,794 r/
October	1,717	1,623	--	7	3,347

r/ Revised.

1/ Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

Source: Natural Resources Canada.

TABLE 4
CONSUMPTION AND STOCKS OF IRON ORE AND
BLAST FURNACE PRODUCTION OF HOT METAL AT U.S. IRON AND STEEL PLANTS 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

Consumption by source	Consumption of ores and agglomerates			
	October		January-October	
	1999	1998	1999	1998
United States ores	4,823	4,669	47,114	48,895
Canadian ores	632	540	4,561	5,577
Foreign ores	482	455	4,251	4,899
Total 1/	5,937	5,663	55,926	59,372
Consumption by process				
Blast furnaces	5,372	5,116	51,159	53,907
Steel furnaces	8	8	46	85
Agglomerating plants 2/	556	539	4,719	5,346
Miscellaneous 3/	--	1	2	30
Total 1/	5,937	5,663	55,926	59,372
Storage point	Stocks of ores and agglomerates			
	October 31			
	1999	1998		
Furnace yards	16,036	19,600		
Receiving/transfer docks	2,645	3,459		
Total consumer	18,681	23,058		
No. of blast furnaces operating on the last day of the month	Blast furnace production of hot metal			
	October		January-October	
	1999	1998	1999	1998
Hot metal and pig iron produced in blast furnaces	4,147	3,821	38,038	41,020
	35	37	XX	XX

XX Not applicable.

1/ Includes agglomerates.

2/ Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

3/ Iron ore and iron ore concentrates consumed in agglomerating plants not located at the mine or plant site.

4/ Sold to nonreporting companies or used for purposes not listed.

Sources: American Iron Ore Association (consumption of iron ore) and American Iron and Steel Institute (production of hot metal and pig iron).

TABLE 5
U.S. EXPORTS OF IRON ORE, BY COUNTRY
OF DESTINATION AND TYPE 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

Country of destination and type	1999				
	1st quarter	2nd quarter	August	September	October
Canada	500	2,271	804	603	537
Mexico	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)
Other	8	6	--	1	1
Total 3/	509	2,277	804	603	538
Pellets	495	2,262	803	599	528
Other	13	14	1	5	9
Total 3/	509	2,277	804	603	538

1/ Includes agglomerates.

2/ Less than 1/2 unit.

3/ Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 6
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF IRON ORE,
BY COUNTRY AND TYPE 1/
(Exclusive of ore containing 20% or more manganese)

Country of origin and type of product	1999					1998
	October		January-October			January-October
	Thousand metric tons	Value 2/ (thousand dollars)	Thousand metric tons	Value 2/ (thousand dollars)	Value 2/ (dollars per ton)	Thousand metric tons
Australia	--	--	525	7,114	13.55	558
Brazil	819	18,817	4,505	111,431	24.73	5,312
Canada	893	25,398	5,076	153,261	30.19	7,531
Mexico	1	10	9	154	17.11	9
Peru	24	308	63	899	14.27	126
Sweden	--	--	254	8,065	31.75	373
Venezuela	22	427	283	19,708	69.64	882
Other	--	--	300	8,204	27.35	134
Total 4/	1,758	44,961	11,015	308,837	28.04 5/	14,925
Concentrates	374	6,077	1,161	20,054	17.27	1,179
Coarse ores	22	427	318	9,854	30.99	348
Fine ores	318	6,850	2,851	60,259	21.14	2,815
Pellets	967	30,342	5,911	190,527	32.23	9,906
Briquettes	--	--	195	16,929	86.82	128
Other agglomerates	78	1,265	572	10,835	18.94	542
Roasted pyrites	--	17	7	379	54.14	7
Total 4/	1,758	44,961	11,015	308,837	28.04 5/	14,925

1/ Includes agglomerates.

2/ Customs value. Excludes international freight, insurance, and other c.i.f. charges.

3/ Less than 1/2 unit.

4/ Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

5/ Weighted average calculated by dividing total value by total tonnage.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 7
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF IRON ORE IN OCTOBER 1999
(Exclusive of ore containing 20% or more manganese) 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

Country of origin	Type of product						Total 3/
	Concentrates	Coarse ores	Fine ores	Pellets	Briquettes and other agglomerates	Roasted pyrites	
Brazil	267	--	294	258	--	--	819
Canada	107	--	--	709	77	--	893
Mexico	--	--	--	--	1	--	1
Other	--	22	24	--	--	(2/)	46
Total 3/	374	22	318	967	78	(2/)	1,758

1/ Includes agglomerates.

2/ Less than 1/2 unit.

3/ Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 8
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF PELLETS, BY COUNTRY

Country of origin	1999					1998
	October		January-October			January-October
	Thousand metric tons	Value 1/ (thousand dollars)	Thousand metric tons	Value 1/ (thousand dollars)	Value 1/ (dollars per ton)	Thousand metric tons
Brazil	258	7,911	1,429	45,158	31.60	2,543
Canada	709	22,431	4,209	136,156	32.35	6,600
Venezuela	--	--	67	2,352	35.10	463
Other	--	--	207	6,861	33.14	301
Total 2/	967	30,342	5,911	190,527	32.23 3/	9,906

1/ Customs value. Excludes international freight, insurance, and other c.i.f. charges.

2/ Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

3/ Weighted average calculated by dividing total value by total tonnage.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 9
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF IRON ORE, BY CUSTOMS DISTRICT 1/
(Exclusive of ore containing 20% or more manganese)

(Thousand metric tons)

Customs district	October	January-October	
	1999	1999	1998
Baltimore, MD (13)	360	2,570	3,636
Buffalo, NY (09)	--	1	22
Charleston, SC (16)	28	336	585
Chicago, IL (39)	533	1,981	1,514
Cleveland, OH (41)	73	460	1,035
Detroit, MI (38)	129	887	1,669
Houston - Galveston, TX (53)	24	69	124
Laredo, TX (23)	--	16	13
Los Angeles, CA (27)	--	(2/)	16
Miami, FL (52)	--	(2/)	--
Mobile, AL (19)	234	1,728	3,829
New Orleans, LA (20)	355	2,862	2,295
Nogales, AZ (26)	1	9	9
Norfolk, VA (14)	--	16	--
Ogdensburg, NY (07)	--	--	(2/)
Philadelphia, PA (11)	22	81	179
Total 3/	1,758	11,015	14,925

1/ Includes agglomerates.

2/ Less than 1/2 unit.

3/ Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 10
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF PELLETS, BY CUSTOMS DISTRICT

(Thousand metric tons)

Customs district	October	January-October	
	1999	1999	1998
Baltimore, MD (13)	157	967	1,445
Charleston, SC (16)	28	231	340
Chicago, IL (39)	159	932	867
Cleveland, OH (41)	45	299	746
Detroit, MI (38)	129	862	1,669
Houston - Galveston, TX (53)	--	45	49
Laredo, TX (23)	--	16	13
Mobile, AL (19)	234	1,721	3,528
New Orleans, LA (20)	215	837	1,156
Philadelphia, PA (11)	--	--	94
Total 2/	967	5,911	9,906

1/ Less than 1/2 unit.

2/ Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

Source: Bureau of the Census.